

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EA/LEEDMOND:LRR
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 311413

E.O11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, JA (YOSHINO, BUNROKU)

SUBJECT: VISIT OF DEPUTY MINISTER YOSHINO

1. JAPANESE EMBASSY MINISTER FUKADA INFORMED EDMOND THAT FONOFF STRONGLY DESIRED THAT DEPUTY MINISTER BUNROKU YOSHINO VISIT WASHINGTON FOR GENERAL DISCUSSION FOREIGN ECONOMIC POLICY ISSUES WITH OFFICIALS IN NEW ADMINISTRATION. DATES SUGGESTED BY EMBASSY WERE FEBRUARY 2-4 OR 7-9. FUKADA STATED THAT EMBASSY WAS NOT ASKING US FOR FORMAL APPROVAL OF DATES SINCE IT REALIZED THAT NEW SUB-CABINET OFFICIALS HAD NOT YET BEEN NAMED AND APPOINTMENTS OBVIOUSLY COULD THUS NOT BE SCHEDULED.

2. ON CONFIDENTIAL BASIS, FUKADA EXPRESSED VIEW THAT FONOFF FELT EARLY VISIT WAS ESSENTIAL IN ORDER PERMIT IT NOT TO BE OUTFLANKED BY MITI SINCE MITI VICE MINISTER MASUDA SCHEDULED VISIT WASHINGTON DURING PERIOD JANUARY 12-15 AS PART OF U.S. AND EUROPEAN VISIT AND APPOINTMENTS BEING REQUESTED WITH KEY OLD AND NEW ADMINISTRATION AND CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS. EDMOND REPLIED FONOFF COULD BE ASSURED WE WOULD ENDEAVOR TO MAKE YOSHINO'S VISIT A SUCCESS WHENEVER HE CHOSE TO COME
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BUT NOTED THAT UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES WE COULD NOT ASSURE YOSHINO THAT HE WOULD BE ABLE TO MAKE APPOINTMENTS WITH ALL THOSE HE MIGHT WISH TO SEE.
ROBINSON

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